



## RESOLUTION 2022-005

### A Resolution to Recognize Town of Townsend Day

**WHEREAS**, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is Townsend (Founders) Day for the Town of Townsend, which was originally known as Charley Town or Charles Town and was inhabited by a community of free African Americans.

**WHEREAS**, the 1830 United States Federal Census recorded six (6), individuals living in the Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle, Delaware, all listed as free colored persons - According to the History of Delaware, 1609-1888, Volume I, authored by J. Thomas Scharf, only two or three huts occupied by African Americans, existed prior to 1860. Additionally, Lee Haven United Methodist Church, formally known as Lee Chapel M.E. Church was formally incorporated on September 2, 1824, as a faith-based organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Charley Town was named after an African American man named Charles Lloyd (1805-1859) that lived in the area with his family; wife Jane Lloyd, daughters Fanny and Harriet Lloyd, and son Frisby Lloyd. Frisby Lloyd, is interred and has an existing headstone in the Lee Haven United Methodist Church Cemetery located on Pinetree Road, Townsend, Delaware; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 16, 1841, records of deed show that George Sheets sold land to Charles Lloyd in the Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle County. Maps of the era show Charles Town located between Fieldsboro and Smyrna; and

**WHEREAS**, sometime in 1845 through 1855, brothers Samuel and John Townsend bought large tracts of farmland in the area and settled. Samuel Townsend actively petitioned through written communications to change the name of Charley or Charles Town. After a robust debate by local residents, the Town was renamed Townsend, honoring landowners with the largest parcels; and

**WHEREAS**, the Townsend brothers supported economic development of the Town by building a railroad in 1856, establishing Townsend as a major shipping point for agricultural products, building a thriving community, and contributing to the vitality and prosperity of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delaware General Assembly chartered the Town of Townsend on April 3, 1885; and

**WHEREAS**, Townsend Day celebrates the legacy and work of the founders of the Town – Charles Lloyd, Samuel Townsend, and John Townsend; and

**WHEREAS**, today the Town has become the legal residence to almost 3,000 residents

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Townsend hereby adopts this resolution commemorating April 3<sup>rd</sup> as Townsend Day.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Townsend to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2022.

Passed and Approved This 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2022.

**TOWN OF TOWNSEND**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Miller, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Antonina M. Tantillo

Vote of Council	Yea	Na	Abs
Mayor Miller	-	-	-
CM E. Dugan			
CM S. Lobdell			
CM J. Mertz			
CW E. Clarke			

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